exhibit an unusual distraction display from nearby floating pennywort or in very shallow water. They retreat 20 to 30 feet from the nest, face the intruder, half extend both wings, and stamp their feet alternately on the water. The alternate stamping of the feet results in much splashing and in general creates a noisy disturbance. The wing extension more than doubles the bird's apparent bulk. *Kuk* calls are given during the display and while the bird moves about between displays. One bird which was observed daily during the 1960 season performed on low, horizontal limbs of nearby willow (*Salix* sp.) when a combination of pennywort growth and high water level made the display impossible at its usual locale. The display lost much of its effectiveness, but the slapping on the bark was still distinctly audible at more than 30 feet. Some stamping was done using alternate feet, but the bird appeared to have some difficulty maintaining its perch, and most of the stamping was done repetitively with one foot. Although this stamping was done with the right foot, it was probably because the left foot was at a slightly higher elevation rather than because of any "footedness" on the part of the bird.

These observations clarify a discrepancy in the literature. Bent leaves the impression that incubating birds respond by moving a very few feet away and otherwise ignoring the intruder. Miller (1946. *Cassinia*, 36:14) describes what must be this same distraction display, ". . . jumped about excitedly. She splashed and displayed upon the water and pecked frequently at the duck weed which covered her. Her cries . . . attracted her mate. . . . He behaved just as excitedly, as he jumped up and down on the water feigning a broken wing." Miller labels this injury feigning. Gullion (1952. *Wilson Bull.*, 64:83–93) refers to Miller's work. He concludes that the elements of this display closely resemble churning and swanning by the American Coot (*Fulica americana*). Churning is a displacement activity in which the coot backpaddles so rapidly that it lifts its body out of the water. Swanning, partial extension and arching of the wings, is used in nest defense. Swanning in the American Coot resembles wing extension in the Common Gallinule. Stamping in the gallinule is not the same thing as churning in the coot. These coot and gallinule displays do have some elements in common, but they play different roles in the behavior patterns of these two birds. Gullion was correct in questioning the classification of these gallinule displays by Miller as injury feigning. The gallinule's partial wing extension crudely resembles the familiar broken-wing feint, but apparently only serves the function of increasing apparent bulk. The total display makes the adult bird more conspicuous, and it should be considered a distraction display.—DONALD A. JENNI, *Department of Biology, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, 2 November 1960.*

**A Hoary Redpoll specimen for New Jersey.**—During the winter of 1959–1960, there was a major invasion of Common Redpolls (*Acanthis flammea*) in the northeast, the fourth such occurrence in the United States in the past 14 years (*Audubon Field Notes*, 14:284). Hoary Redpolls (*A. hornemanni*) were frequently reported in the flocks of Common Redpolls, several "lighter" redpolls being reported from the New York City region and Hunterdon County, New Jersey.

On 1 April 1960, I noticed one pale individual in a flock of 14 redpolls at a feeding station in West Englewood, Bergen County, New Jersey. It was frequently involved in threat displays and chase flights with other members of the flock. The bird was taken as a specimen and subsequently identified as *Acanthis hornemanni exilipes* by Harrison B. Tordoff. The specimen has been deposited in The University of Michigan Museum of

Zoology (UMMZ 155,143). It was a male with small testes and a moderate amount of body fat. Slight molt was noted on the back and on the throat. The wing measured 71.2 mm., the exposed culmen 6.1 mm.

This appears to be the first specimen record for New Jersey and the only recent specimen for the New York City region — one was taken in the Bronx in 1888 by Dwight (Cruickshank, "Birds Around New York City," 1942:441).—FRANK B. GILL, *The University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 3 November 1960.*

**Three new birds for the Mississippi list.**—I can find no reference reporting the Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*), Mottled Duck (*Anas fulvigula maculosa*), or Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) as having been collected in Mississippi. Recent collection of these three species seems noteworthy.

CATTLE EGRET.—On 29 May 1960 I found two of these egrets in a cow pasture near the coast 4 miles east of Pascagoula (Jackson County). One was collected. During the summer, several others of this species were seen at various points along Mississippi's coast. Sterling G. Clawson, Mississippi Game and Fish Commission Biologist, took a young specimen at Claiborne (Hancock County) on 8 September 1960.

MOTTLED DUCK.—The fresh and brackish marshes of western Hancock County held a sizable population of these ducks during the summer of 1960. I saw the species there on numerous occasions and took a specimen near Claiborne on 9 September when 23 were seen.

BLACK-NECKED STILT.—I saw this species once during the fall of 1960. On 24 September I took a specimen from a group of seven found feeding on mud flats at Bayou Casotte in Jackson County, a few miles east of Pascagoula. The AOU Check-list (Fifth Edition, 1957) lists Mississippi among the states in which the Black-necked Stilt occurs casually in migration.

The specimens were deposited in the museum of the Mississippi Game and Fish Commission.—LOVETT E. WILLIAMS, JR., *CGC Gentian, General Delivery, Galveston, Texas, 28 November 1960.*

**Flock feeding behavior in migrant Bonaparte's Gulls.**—On 12 November 1960, we observed a flock of 75–100 Bonaparte's Gulls (*Larus philadelphia*), including only four immatures, feeding at a hot-water outlet of the Consumer's Power Company near Erie, Monroe County, Michigan. After we watched this flock for several minutes, we noted a definite feeding pattern.

The feeding area was about 100 yards long and 10 yards wide. The birds moved south into the wind along the long axis of the feeding area. When a bird reached the end of the area, it would veer lateral to, or up and over the feeding flock and return to the northern end of the area, whereupon it would resume feeding. The lateral routes were used more frequently than the overhead route. A returning bird could re-enter the feeding flock at any point, although the majority entered within the first 20 yards of the run.

Additional observations of the flock revealed that there were two smaller circular feeding routes within the large one. Upon reaching the center of the feeding area, a small percentage of the birds would return to the beginning, thus covering only half of the total feeding area. A similar half-route was established in the southern half of the feeding area.

The number of dives an individual made in one trip ranged from 2 to 17, the greatest number being made by those birds which covered the entire 100 yards. The birds dived into the water from 2 to 5 feet above the surface. An actively feeding individual would